



Close Out Memorandum

**Fallbrook, California
HWY21IH004**

(2 pages)



NTSB

National Transportation Safety Board

490 L'Enfant Plaza, SW
Washington, DC 20594-0001
www.ntsb.gov

DATE: April 26, 2021
TO: Robert Molloy, Director, Office of Highway Safety
THRU: Mark Bagnard, Chief of Investigations, Office of Highway Safety
FROM: Sheryl Harley, Investigator, Office of Highway Safety
SUBJECT: Close Out Memorandum Collision involving passenger car and a stopped emergency vehicle on Interstate 15, Fallbrook, California HWY211H004

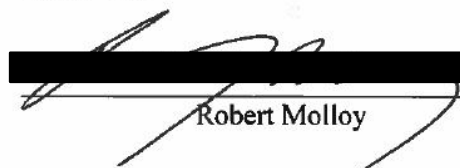
Synopsis

On Thursday, November 28, 2019 at about 10:33 a.m. (pacific standard time), a 1997 Ford Crown Victoria 4-door passenger car, occupied by the driver and a front seat passenger was traveling southbound in the far-left lane (lane #1) on Interstate 15 (I-15) near Fallbrook, San Diego County, California. The driver of the passenger car attempted to change lanes because of heavy rain that left pools of water on the roadway. The driver lost control of the vehicle which rotated and began to slide to the southeast. The car departed from the travel lane and the passenger side of the vehicle collided with the right rear corner of a stationary 2018 Ford ambulance that was parked so as to occupy both the left shoulder and the center median. The ambulance was parked off the roadway in response to an earlier crash. As a result of the collision, the car sustained extensive damage to the right side and intrusion into the passenger compartment at the B-pillar. At the time of crash, the patient compartment of the ambulance was occupied by the crew, three victims from the earlier crash, and a CHP officer. All occupants of the ambulance sustained minor injuries. The driver of the passenger car sustained serious injury and the front seat passenger was fatally injured and pronounced dead on the scene.

Status

This investigation was initiated to support the NTSB's interest in the safety issues related to the exposure risks of emergency responders and highway workers on active roadways. The safety issue was identified in the North Charleston, SC investigation (HWY20FH007) and the Arlington, WI investigation (HWY20IH009). No further action beyond this memorandum will be taken; however, information from the items in this docket may be used in future Safety Board reports and/or activities.

Approved:


Robert Molloy

5-7-21
Date